

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEVADA**

LORA ANN BRAND,
Plaintiff(s),
v.
ANDREW SAUL,
Defendant(s).

Case No.: 2:20-cv-02219-NJK

Order

[Docket No. 1]

Plaintiff has requested authority pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915 to proceed *in forma pauperis* (Docket No. 1), and has submitted a Complaint (Docket No. 1-1).

I. Application to Proceed *In Forma Pauperis*

Plaintiff filed an application to proceed *in forma pauperis*. Docket No. 1. The application has sufficiently shown an inability to prepay fees and costs or give security for them. Accordingly, the application to proceed *in forma pauperis* will be granted pursuant to § 1915. The Court will now review Plaintiff's complaint.

II. Screening the Complaint

When a party seeks permission to pursue a civil case *in forma pauperis*, courts will screen the complaint. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e). With respect to social security appeals specifically, judges in this District have outlined some basic requirements for complaints to satisfy the Court's screening. First, the complaint must establish that administrative remedies were exhausted pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 405(g), and that the civil action was commenced within 60 days after notice of a final decision. Second, the complaint must indicate the judicial district in which the plaintiff resides. Third, the complaint must state the nature of the plaintiff's disability and when the plaintiff claims to have become disabled. Fourth, the complaint must contain a plain, short,

1 and concise statement identifying the nature of the plaintiff's disagreement with the determination
2 made by the Social Security Administration and show that the plaintiff is entitled to relief. *See*,
3 *e.g.*, *Graves v. Colvin*, 2015 WL 357121, *2 (D. Nev. Jan. 26, 2015) (collecting cases).

4 The Court has reviewed the complaint, and finds these elements satisfied in this case.

5 **III. Conclusion**

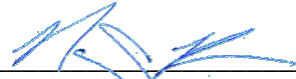
6 Accordingly, the Court hereby **ORDERS** as follows:

- 7 1. Plaintiff's request to proceed *in forma pauperis* is **GRANTED** with the caveat that the
8 fees shall be paid if recovery is made. At this time, Plaintiff shall not be required to
9 pre-pay the filing fee.
- 10 2. Plaintiff is permitted to maintain this action to conclusion without the necessity of
11 prepayment of any additional fees or costs or the giving of a security therefor. The
12 Order granting leave to proceed *in forma pauperis* shall not extend to the issuance of
13 subpoenas at government expense.
- 14 3. The Clerk of Court shall file the Complaint.
- 15 4. The Clerk of Court shall serve the Commissioner of the Social Security Administration
16 by sending a copy of the summons and Complaint by certified mail to: (1) Office of
17 Regional Chief Counsel, Region IX, Social Security Administration, 160 Spear St.,
18 Suite 899, San Francisco, California 94105-1545; and (2) the Attorney General of the
19 United States, Department of Justice, 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Room 4400,
20 Washington, D.C. 20530.
- 21 5. The Clerk of Court shall issue summons to the United States Attorney for the District
22 of Nevada and deliver the summons and Complaint to the U.S. Marshal for service.
- 23 6. From this point forward, Plaintiff shall serve upon Defendant or, if appearance has been
24 entered by counsel, upon the attorney, a copy of every pleading, motion or other
25 document submitted for consideration by the court. Plaintiff shall include with the
26 original paper submitted for filing a certificate stating the date that a true and correct
27 copy of the document was personally served or sent by mail to the defendants or
28 counsel for the defendants. The court may disregard any paper received by a district

1 judge or magistrate judge which has not been filed with the Clerk, and any paper
2 received by a district judge, magistrate judge or the Clerk which fails to include a
3 certificate of service.

4 IT IS SO ORDERED.

5 Dated: December 9, 2020

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8 Nancy J. Koppe
9 United States Magistrate Judge
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